



April 13, 2020

## CCSC COVID-19 UPDATE



*Lines grow as need grows: Clients practice safe distancing while waiting in line at the Emergency Services-Southwest food pantry.*

### **YOU and CCSC Continue to Serve 3 Times Normal Numbers**

Last Thursday, Christian Community Service Center fed 174 families.

About eighty percent of the food given out came from community donations, from YOU--bags and boxes from individuals and small groups, carloads and truckloads from church drive-thru food drives.

YOU are keeping food on the tables of those in need during COVID-19, when CCSC's suppliers can't meet CCSC's growing needs. YOUR grocery donations are stocking the pantries' shelves.

"CCSC continues to see three times more than its normal numbers," said Karen Holloman, CCSC's program director - Basic Needs/Children. "Our churches and supporters continue to be the heroes with food donations."

Individuals and agencies know that CCSC is there to help. CCSC remains on the United Way's [Top 10 Agency Referral list](#). From March 1 to April 8, United Way of

Greater Houston's call center handled 26,625 Harris County COVID-19 related calls and referred 1,193 of those callers to Christian Community Service Center.

CCSC has also been featured on Charity Navigator's COVID-19 Hot Topic page on the "Relief Supplies: Community & Support Services Relief [List](#)."

The COVID crisis is different, we all realize that, and it will take all of CCSC's friends to support its response to those in need.

"This pandemic has jolted our economy to such extremes that we expect to see a significant and continued increase in the people coming to us," said CCSC's Executive Director Michelle Shonbeck.

Holloman agrees that this crisis is like no other we've seen. "After Hurricane Harvey hit, CCSC's Emergency Services program implemented modified operations for 2 1/2 weeks and then transitioned back to normal practices," Holloman said. "We are now four weeks into COVID-19 modified operations with no idea how long it will last, but we are making things work."

CCSC is making it work with your help. Thank you to all our volunteers, friends, donors and member churches for all you are doing to support CCSC and those who walk through our doors each day.

If you would like to donate groceries, follow us on [Facebook](#) to find out when and where drive-thru food drives are happening, and then share that information with your friends. You may also drop off nonperishable food donations at 3230 Mercer St., Monday-Friday 9 a.m to 2 p.m., or 6856 Bellaire Blvd. Mondays and Tuesdays or Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Every box or can helps, but the pantries are most in need of: canned tuna or chicken, boxed cereal, pasta, tomatoes (diced, sauce, etc.), canned vegetables, canned fruit, dry rice, dry beans, toilet paper, bar soap and bags--paper, plastic or reusable.

To donate funds to CCSC please visit its secure website at [www.ccschouston.org/donations/](http://www.ccschouston.org/donations/) or send a check to CCSC at P.O. Box 27924, Houston, TX 77227.

## JobNet Launches Virtual Programs for Job Seekers



JobNet continues to send resources and updates to clients via email and this week launched its virtual coaching and workshop sessions to grateful job seekers.

Volunteer Financial Coach Elizabeth House used Zoom to meet with her client, Ginna Avella. "I received wonderful advice and some homework," Ginna said. "We had a great time using the Zoom app."

"I feel so blessed to have your support," Avella added. "It was amazing to meet Stephanie (Stephanie Wen, JobNet's Success Coach) and welcome her assistance. I value her time and knowledge. Having the support of JobNet means, literally, the world to me and I'm sure to many who, like me, are unemployed and looking to get back to the workforce in such a challenging time as society has never experienced."

"Martha's Way staff is communicating with current Martha's Way students and 2019 graduates to understand their needs and provide them with accurate information and referrals to resources," said CCSC Program Director - Employment Stefanie Lopez. "We will continue to do all we can for our Martha's Way and JobNet clients."

*The mission of the Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled, and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural differences.*



**Stay Connected**



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